Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. Canceled.

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ preceding-vehicle following control system ~~as claimed in claim 1,~~ for a host vehicle, comprising:

a controller arranged,

to obtain road width indicative information of a road traveled by the host vehicle,

to execute a following control for following a preceding vehicle ahead of the host vehicle according to the road width indicative information, and

~~wherein the controller is further arranged~~ to vary a control gain employed for obtaining a target vehicle speed according to the road width indicative information in the execution of the following control.

3. (Original) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the controller is further arranged to vary the control gain so that a change of the target vehicle speed decreases as a road width obtained from the road width indicative information increases.

4. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the controller is further arranged to set the control gain on ~~the~~ a basis of a natural frequency of a transfer characteristic in a control system of the following control, and to decrease the natural frequency as the road width increases.

5. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the controller is further arranged to set the control gain on ~~the~~ a basis of a damping coefficient of a transfer characteristic in a control system of the following control, and to increase the damping coefficient as the road width increases.

6. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the controller is further arranged to set the control gain on ~~the~~ a basis of a natural frequency of a transfer characteristic in a control system of the following control, and to decrease the natural frequency as the road width increases.

7. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the control gain includes first and second control gains, and a target vehicle speed is determined from ~~the~~ a sum of a first product and a second product where the first product is obtained by multiplying a difference between an inter-vehicle distance and a target inter-vehicle distance and a first gain, and the second product is obtained by multiplying a relative speed between the host vehicle and a preceding vehicle and a second gain.

8. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ preceding-vehicle following control system ~~as claimed in claim 1,~~ for a host vehicle, comprising:

a controller arranged,

to obtain road width indicative information of a road traveled by the host vehicle,

to execute a following control for following a preceding vehicle ahead of the host vehicle according to the road width indicative information, and

~~wherein the controller is further arranged~~ to set a target inter-vehicle distance according to the road width indicative information in the execution of the following control.

9. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the controller is further arranged to correct the target inter-vehicle distance on ~~the~~ a basis of the road width.

10. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the controller is further arranged to vary a correction quantity of the target inter-vehicle distance on ~~the~~ a basis of the host-vehicle speed.

11. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the controller is further arranged to increase the target inter-vehicle distance as ~~the~~ host-vehicle speed increases.

12. (Original) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the controller is further arranged to increase the target inter-vehicle distance as the road width is decreased.

13. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the controller is further arranged to calculate a target vehicle speed based on ~~the~~ a target inter-vehicle distance and to execute the following control using the target vehicle speed.

14. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim [[1]] 2, wherein the road width indicative information includes at least one of ~~the~~ a number of lanes and a lane width of the traveling road.

15. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim [[1]] 2, further comprising a car navigation system connected to the controller, wherein the car navigation system has stored the road width indicative information therein ~~wherein~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The preceding-vehicle following control system as claimed in claim [[1]] 2, further comprising a CCD camera which takes an image picture of a road ahead of the host vehicle, the controller obtaining a lane width of the road based on the image picture.

17. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A preceding-vehicle following control system for a host vehicle, comprising:

a road information device obtaining road information as to a road traveled by the host vehicle;

a preceding-vehicle recognizing device obtaining preceding-vehicle information of a preceding vehicle ahead of the host vehicle; and

a controller connected to the road information device and the preceding-vehicle recognizing device, the controller being arranged,

to determine a road width of the road from the road information,

to vary a condition for determining a control characteristic of a control system of a following control for following the preceding vehicle, ~~and~~

to execute the following control on the basis of the condition for determining the control characteristic and the preceding-vehicle information, and

to vary a control gain employed for obtaining a target vehicle speed according to the road width indicative information in the execution of the following control.

18. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A method of controlling a host vehicle, comprising:

obtaining road width indicative information of a road traveled by the host vehicle; ~~and~~

executing a following control for following a preceding vehicle ahead of the host vehicle according to the road ~~with~~ **width** indicative information; and

varying a control gain employed for obtaining a target vehicle speed according to the road width indicative information in the execution of the following control.

19. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A preceding-vehicle following control system for a host vehicle, comprising:

road width obtaining means for obtaining road width indicative information of a road traveled by the host vehicle; ~~and~~

following control means for following a preceding vehicle ahead of the host vehicle upon taking account of the road width indicative information; and

a control gain varying means employed for obtaining a target vehicle speed according to the road width indicative information in the execution of the following control.